

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 EURE-00 /056 W

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P R 091321Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5640

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1791

PARIS FOR ENDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, NL

SUBJ: CIVAIR: MEETING WITH FONMIN VAN DER STOEL

REF: STATE 074094 AND 070065

1. ACCOMPANIED BY DCM I CALLED ON FONMIN VAN DER STOEL
APIRL 8 TO MAKE DEMARCHE PURSUANT TO REFTELS. PRE-
FACING REMARKS THAT MY ROLE WAS THAT OF FRIENDLY
INTERLOCUTOR AND THAT MY CALL SHOULD NOT BE INTER-
PRETED IN ANY WAY AS PROVOCATION, I CAREFULLY MADE ALL
POINTS SPECIFIED IN STATE 070065. I NOTED PARTICULARLY
THE GROWING PRESSURE FROM US AVIATION INDUSTRY TO
TERMINATE OUR BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT, AND
CONCLUDED BY URGING THAT THE GON GIVE MOST SERIOUS
RECONSIDERATION TO THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL.

2. VAN DER STOEL COMMENTED THAT I HAD MADE CLEAR THAT
I WAS ACTING ON SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, AND SAID HE
CONSIDERED IT "VERY SERIOUS NES." HE THEN PROCEEDED
TO GIVE A PERONAL REPLY ADVISING ME HE WOULD RESERVE
OFFICIAL GON RESPONSE UNTIL HE HAD CONSULTED WITH
MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION WESTERTEP. WEIGHING HIS
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WORDS CAREFULLY, VAN DER STOEL EXPRESSED SINCERE APPRE-

CIATION FOR THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO BE HELPFUL BUT WONDERED WHY THE NETHERLANDS WAS BEING SINGLED OUT FOR SUCH SPECIAL TREATMENT. HE WAS THINKING, HE SAID, OF WHAT THE NETHERLANDS HAD DONE OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS DURING WHICH IT HAD CONSISTENTLY ENDEAVORED TO BE A LOYAL ALLY OF THE US. HE TICKED OFF THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE, SUBSEQUENT CLOSE CONSULTATIONS IN THE IEA, DUTCH POLICY TO IMPROVE POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE EC-9 AND THE US ESPECIALLY ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AND HIS JUST COMPLETED VISIT TO ISREAL WHERE HE HAD MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO INDUCE MORE UNDERSTANDING OF THE US POINT OF VIEW. HE CONCLUDED BY A REFERENCE TO THE REPLACEMENT OF THE STARFIGHTERS AND "ALL THAT WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH." IN THE FACE OF THIS RECORD OF STEADFAST COOPERATION, VAN DER STOEL SAID, HE WAS NOW CONFRONTED WITH A COMMUNICATION WHICH CONSTITUTED A VERY SERIOUS BLOW TO A VERY IMPORTANT DUTCH ENTERPRISE. HE ALSO ADDUCED THE LARGER CONTEXT OF AN EXTREMELY FAVORABLE OVERALL US TRADE BALANCE AS WELL AS THE IMPORTANT EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CONTENT OF THE KLM QUESTION. THUS, IF THE US ADHERED TO ITS PRESENT DECISION, THE EFFECT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WOULD BE MOST UNDESIRABLE. REITERATING THIS WAS HIS PERSONAL, SPONTANEOUS REACTION, HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE AN OFFICIAL DEFINITIVE REPLY AFTER HE HAD CONSULTED WITH WESTER TERP.

3. AFTER ADVISING VAN DER STOEL THAT HIS VIEWS WOULD BE FULLY REPORTED TO WASHINGTON, I RECALLED THE SECRETARY'S EARLIER EXPRESSION OF HIS DESIRE THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD BE SETTLED WITHOUT RANCOR ON THE BASIS OF TRADITIONAL US-DUTCH FRIENDSHIP AND AGAIN NOTED THAT THE US WAS READY TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WHENEVER AND WHEREEVER THE DUTCH WISHED.

4. BEFORE LEAVING I BROUGHT UP PRIMIN DEN UYL'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND SAID WE WERE VERY PLEASED THAT VAN DER STOEL WOULD PARTICIPATE. VAN DER STOEL REPLIED THAT THE VISIT WOULD NOT BE CLOUDED BY KLM ISSUE.

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5. FYI. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT VAN DER STOEL HAS LINKED THE KLM AND F-104 REPLACEMENT ISSUES. GOULD

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